



Fair Political Practices Commission

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[www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)

## NEWS ADVISORY

For Immediate Release:  
March 10, 2006

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### FPPC May Clarify Rules for Combining And Reporting Contributions from Certain Sources

The Fair Political Practices Commission on Tuesday (March 14) will consider clarifying its rules for “aggregating” – or combining – certain contributions and independent expenditures made from different sources and how those payments should be reported on disclosure forms.

The FPPC will also consider other matters, including enforcement cases and a request for a formal Commission opinion on a question involving surplus campaign funds.

The commission’s regular monthly meeting begins at 9:45 a.m. in the FPPC's eighth-floor hearing room at 428 J St. (Fifth and J Streets) in Sacramento.

California’s Political Reform Act establishes various monetary thresholds for disclosure purposes. Under long-established policy and existing regulations, the FPPC provides that in certain circumstances, contributions or independent expenditures from different sources must be combined and considered as coming from the same source. For example, if an individual makes a contribution from his or her personal funds and then makes an additional contribution from his or her solely owned business entity, in most circumstances those contributions must be combined for purposes of the Act’s contribution thresholds.

Previously, these “aggregation” rules applied mostly to the major donor reporting requirements. But they also now apply to state campaign contribution limits approved by voters with Proposition 34 in 2000.

At its January meeting, the Commission discussed several staff proposals for clarifying and codifying the Commission’s policy on “aggregation” and the associated reporting requirements. At Tuesday’s meeting, the Commission will consider adoption of several revised or new regulations to complete this project. (See agenda item #9.)

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In other action, commissioners will consider a request for a formal Commission opinion on a question involving the transfer of surplus campaign funds from one campaign committee to another committee. Specifically, the request asks whether campaign funds, which became “surplus campaign funds” through the error of a campaign treasurer, can be used for purposes not specified for surplus funds in section 89519 of the Political Reform Act. (See agenda item #10.)

The agenda and supporting memoranda and materials are posted on the FPPC’s website at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov). Just click on “Agendas” on the left side of the home page and go to “Current Agenda.” The agenda is posted on the website 10 days before the meeting, and letters commenting on agenda items are also posted when received.

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